



# SOUTHEAST IDAHO

BANNOCK, BEAR LAKE, BINGHAM, CARIBOU, FRANKLIN, ONEIDA, & POWER COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

The Pocatello Metropolitan Statistical Area's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped two-tenths of a percentage point in February 2001 to 4.2 percent, from January's rate of 4.4 percent. According to Southeast Idaho Table 1, the number of employed individuals increased by 480 over the month, and the number of unemployed individuals decreased by 60. From one year ago, the unemployment rate dropped from 5.4 percent to 4.2 percent. The decrease occurred because employment growth (1,640) outpaced Civilian Labor Force growth (1,200) by more than a full percentage point.

Temperatures dipped and snowfall increased in February, stifling most outdoor activity during the month. Despite inclement weather, *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 600, to 33,330 in February 2001 from January's 32,730. *Government Education* led job growth in February, because Idaho State University resumed full employment after the holiday break. *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* are counted during the week of the 12th of the month. Since Idaho State University resumed classes on January 16th, the increase in jobs actually showed up in the February count. *Services* gained 140 jobs in February. Leading job growth in *Services* was *Business Services* (85), *Social Services* (19), and *Engineering and Management Services* (16). *Business Services* increases reflected normal seasonal patterns, as employers turned to temporary staffing agencies for workers and other business service providers to assist their preparations for the busy spring season. *Hotels and Other Lodging Places* added 14 jobs in February because of special events held in Pocatello during February and March. Following normal seasonal patterns, *Retail Trade* led job reductions in February. Seasonal hiring for the holidays occurred in November and December, and many retailers retain some of their temporary staff through January to assist with inventory. Then in February, those jobs are eliminated.

*Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 630 from one year ago. Increases in February 2001 over February 2000 occurred in *Manufacturing* (190), *Retail Trade* (170), and *Ser-*

Southeast Idaho Table 1: Labor Force & Employment  
Pocatello City MSA (Bannock County)

	Feb 2001*	Jan 2001	Feb 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	40,470	40,050	39,270	1.0%	3.1%
Unemployment	1,700	1,760	2,140	-3.4%	-20.6%
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.2	4.4	5.4		
Total Employment	38,770	38,290	37,130	1.3%	4.4%
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	40,900	40,480	39,780	1.0%	2.8%
Unemployment	2,040	2,090	2,540	-2.4%	-19.7%
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.0	5.2	6.4		
Total Employment	38,860	38,390	37,240	1.2%	4.4%
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>	33,330	32,730	32,700	1.8%	1.9%
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	4,470	4,450	4,320	0.4%	3.5%
Mining & Construction	1,470	1,460	1,510	0.7%	-2.6%
Manufacturing	3,000	2,990	2,810	0.3%	6.8%
<b>Service-Producing Industries</b>	28,860	28,280	28,380	2.1%	1.7%
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	1,770	1,780	1,840	-0.6%	-3.8%
Wholesale Trade	1,380	1,390	1,460	-0.7%	-5.5%
Retail Trade	7,000	7,130	6,830	-1.8%	2.5%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,450	1,440	1,440	0.7%	0.7%
Services	8,030	7,890	7,720	1.8%	4.0%
Government Administration	3,410	3,350	3,380	1.8%	0.9%
Government Education	5,820	5,300	5,710	9.8%	1.9%

\*Preliminary Estimate

\*\*Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

*vices* (310), while decreases occurred in *Construction* (40), *Transportation, Communications & Utilities* (70), and *Wholesale Trade* (80). *Retail Trade* gained 170 jobs in February 2001 over February 2000, because of added jobs at Wal-Mart and Fred Meyer in Pocatello. *Services* added 310 jobs in February 2001 over February 2000, mostly in call centers and temporary staffing agencies throughout Pocatello. Activity in February can differ greatly between years because of weather patterns, the crop market, and a variety of other factors. Since weather conditions in February 2000 were milder than in 2001, outdoor activity occurred later this year, holding down the number of jobs in *Construction*, *Transportation*, and *Wholesale Trade*.

## SPECIAL TOPIC: POPULATION 2000

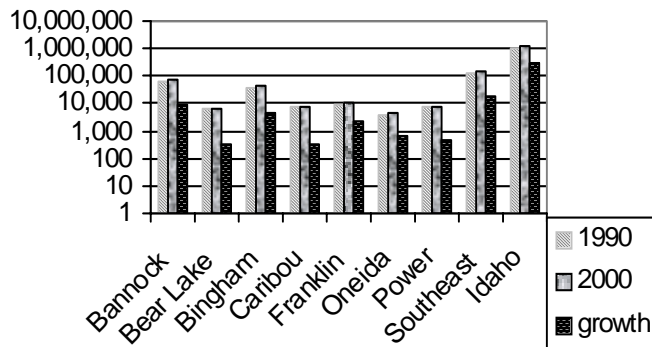
In March, the U.S. Bureau of the Census released the first local area population data from the 2000 Census. Consistent with Idaho's economic expansion over the past decade, Southeast Idaho Population Graph 1 shows that Idaho's high population growth eluded most Southeast Idaho communities.

Idaho's population increased 28.5 percent over the decade, ranking it fifth in percentage growth of all states. Southeast Idaho, in comparison, grew just 12.9 percent. Growth in the seven southeast counties ranged from 4.9 percent in Caribou County to 22.7 percent in Franklin County.

Southeast Idaho Population Graph 2 shows 1990 and 2000 county population, and total population growth by county. Details of county and major city population growth follow in each county section.

**Southeast Population Graph 1**

**Population Growth - Area vs. State**



### Bannock County

Bannock County ranked 26th of Idaho's 44 counties in the rate of population growth between 1990 and 2000, falling significantly behind Idaho's growth rate but surpassing Southeast Idaho's growth rate. The county's population increased by 9,539 individuals; it ranked 7th in the state in total population growth, and ranked 5th in total population. Pocatello, Bannock County's largest city, grew 11.6 percent (5,349) and dropped from Idaho's second largest city in the 1990 census to Idaho's third largest city in the 2000 census, surpassed by Nampa. Chubbuck, Bannock County's second largest city, grew 24.5 percent (1,906) over the decade.

### Bear Lake County

Bear Lake County ranked 38th of Idaho's 44 counties in population growth rate between 1990 and 2000. The county's total population increased by 327 individuals, ranked 37th in the state in total population growth, and fell from 34th to 35th in total population. Montpelier, Bear Lake County's largest city, grew 4.9 percent and gained 129 individuals. The population in Paris, the county seat, dropped nine-tenths of a percentage point over the decade, a loss of five people. The population count does not include seasonal residents who live in vacation homes around Bear Lake during the summer.

### Bingham County

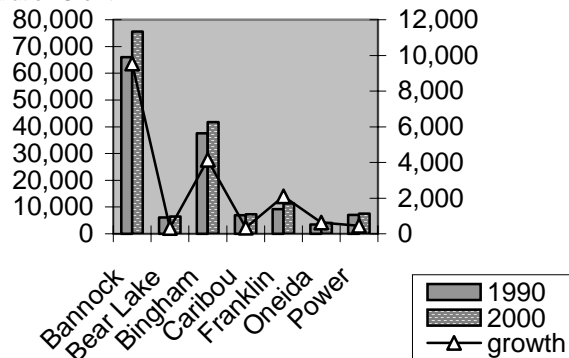
Bingham County ranked 31st of Idaho's 44 counties in the rate of population growth between 1990 and 2000, significantly slower than Idaho's growth rate but very close to Southeast Idaho's growth rate. The county's total population increased by 4,152 individuals, ranked 11th in the state in total population growth, and 7th in the state for total population. Blackfoot, Bingham County's largest city, grew 8 percent and gained 773 individuals. Shelley, Bingham County's second largest city, grew 7.8 percent and gained 277 individuals over the decade.

### Caribou County

Caribou County ranked 41st of Idaho's 44 counties in population growth rate between 1990 and 2000, the lowest growth rate of the seven Southeast Idaho counties. The

**Southeast Population Graph 2**

**Area Population Growth**



county's total population increased by 341 individuals, ranked 36th in the state in total population growth, and fell from 31st to 33rd in the state for total population. Soda Springs, Caribou County's largest city, grew 8.7 percent and gained 270 individuals. Grace, Caribou County's second largest city, grew 1.7 percent and gained 17 individuals.

### Franklin County

Franklin County ranked 15th of Idaho's 44 counties in population growth rate between 1990 and 2000, the fastest growing county in Southeast Idaho. The County's total population increased by 2,097 individuals, ranked 22nd in the state in population growth, and 24th in the state for total population. Preston, Franklin County's largest city, grew 26.2 percent – nearly as fast as the state's growth rate of 26.8 percent – and gained 972 individuals over the decade.

### Oneida County

Oneida County ranked 21st of Idaho's 44 counties in population growth rate between 1990 and 2000, the second fastest growth rate in Southeast Idaho. The county's total population increased by 633 individuals, ranked 33rd in the state for total population growth rate, and ranked 38th in the state for total population. Malad City, Oneida County's largest city, grew 10.9 percent and gained 212 individuals.

### Power County

Power County ranked 34th of Idaho's 44 counties in population growth rate between 1990 and 2000. The county's total population increased by 452 individuals, ranked 34th in the state in total population growth, and fell from 30th to 32nd in the state for total population. American Falls, Power County's largest city, grew 9.4 percent and gained 354 individuals.

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